

Propane Watch

February 2, 2000

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

- U.S. inventories of propane continued their winter decent last week, falling by 4.0 million barrels (MMB) to an estimated 29.7 MMB as of week ending January 28, 2000. U.S. inventories continued to track below the normal range for this time of year. Regional inventories fell across all major areas last week, particularly in the Midwest where inventories declined by nearly 2.7 MMB. East Coast inventories were sharply lower last week, dropping by 0.7 MMB, while in the Gulf Coast, inventories continued moderately lower with a nearly 0.5 MMB stock draw. East Coast inventories moved to the lower limit of the normal range last week, while Midwest and Gulf Coast inventories continued below their respective normal ranges during this same period. January's stock draw, which measured an above average 13.3 MMB, pushed U.S. inventories to the lowest level for this month since 1970.
- Due to recent price spikes and supply problems for heating fuels, the EIA is currently collecting residential
 heating oil and propane prices on a weekly basis. For selected January 24 State-level data, see the EIA
 petroleum web site: http://www.eia.doe.gov.

Propane Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I, II, and III (Thousand Barrels)

Districts	December	January	Week Ending						
	1998	1999	01/07/00	01/14/00	01/21/00	01/28/00	01/29/99		
East Coast (PADD I)	5,069	2,889	^E 5,289	^E 4,999	^E 4,378	E3,657	2,777		
Midwest (PADD II)	26,995	19,460	E17,802	E16,239	E14,253	E11,557	19,800		
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	29,972	23,103	E15,098	E14,014	E13,866	E13,416	21,804		
Total (PADD I-III)	62,036	45,452	^E 38,189	E35,252	E32,497	E28,630	44,381		
U.S. Total	64,633	47,535	^E 39,601	E36,557	E33,699	E29,690	46,023		

E=Estimated data.

Propane Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I and II (Cents per Gallon)

	Wholesale				Residential					
District	12/06/99	12/20/99	01/03/00	01/17/00	01/18/99	12/06/99	12/20/99	01/03/00	01/17/00	01/18/99
East Coast (PADD I)	51.6	52.1	53.9	58.4	32.3	118.1	118.9	120.1	122.5	107.2
New England (PADD IX)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	121.3	122.1	122.8	124.6	111.4
Central Atlantic (PADD IY)	52.4	52.3	54.5	59.2	32.9	119.6	120.4	121.9	124.6	109.0
Lower Atlantic (PADD IZ)	50.7	51.9	53.1	57.5	31.3	111.4	112.5	113.3	115.6	98.8
Midwest (PADD II)	41.9	41.7	42.4	45.3	24.9	85.7	87.0	87.4	88.3	<i>75.4</i>
Average	44.4	44.4	45.4	48.7	26.7	99.6	100.7	101.4	103.0	89.1

NA=Not Available.

R=Revised.

Source: Wholesale propane prices are based on Oil Price Information Service. Residential propane prices are available from data supplied by 23 State Energy Offices from October through March on a semi-monthly basis.

For information about propane stocks, please contact the National Energy Information Center: (202) 586-8800. E-mail: infoctr@eia.doe.gov. For information about propane prices, please contact Alice Lippert: (202) 586-9600. E-mail: alippert@eia.doe.gov.

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Monthly Petroleum Supply Reporting System and Form EIA-807, "Propane Telephone Survey."